The Bravery of Mr. Billy Vestal

CLYDE, OHIO
AMERICAN PUBLISHING CO

The Bravery of Mr. Bailey's Sister.

A SKETCH

IN ONE ACT,

— BY —

Joseph Birkenham.

—TO WHICH IS ADDED—

A DESCRIPTION OF THE COSTUMES—CAST OF THE CHARACTERS—ENTRANCES AND EXITS—RELATIVE POSITIONS OF THE PERFORMERS ON THE STAGE, AND THE WHOLE OF THE STAGE BUSINESS.

AMES' PUBLISHING CO
CLYDE, OHIO:

THE BRAVERY OF MR. BAILEY'S SISTER.

CAST OF CHARACTERS.

MR. BAILEY,.....*Straight.*
RASTUS.....*Comedy.*

—x—

TIME OF PLAYING—15 minutes.

—x—

COSTUMES—Modern.

—x—

STAGE DIRECTIONS.

R., means Right: L., Left: R. H., Right Hand; L. H., Left Hand; C., Centre: S. E., (2d E.) Second Entrance: U. E. Upper Entrance: M. D., Middle Door; F., the Flat; D. F., Door in Flat: R. C., Right of Centre; L. C., Left of Centre.

R.	R. C.	C.	L. C.	L.

***Reader is supposed to be upon the stage facing audience.

The Bravery of Mr. Bailey's Sister.

SCENE. Street.

Enter MR. BAILEY *and* RASTUS, *from opposite directions, singing some popular song.*

Mr. Bailey. Say, Rastus, I understand you attended the banquet the other night? Did you enjoy yourself? Did you take well?

Rastus. You bet I did! I got three spoons, four napkin rings and a sugar bowl. I would have swiped more if I'd had the chance. But say, by the way, does your sister use face powder?

Mr. B. She uses a little powder, I think.

Rastus. A little? She puts it on so thick that she ought to join the plasterers union. Oh, what a face she has and wrinkles! Ugh! they are good—good for the flies to hide in.

Mr. B. I hope you will not criticise my sister's features,

Rastus. Her feet! Oh—(*laughs*) she'd be awful tall if there wasn't so much of her on the ground. Feet! Oh, they are like a couple of trunks. I guess she must leave her feet out side of the room when she retires at night, doesn't she?

Mr. B. You wouldn't believe she wears number two's?

Rastus. You mean twenty-two's?

Mr. B. Now, there's a brave girl. Let me relate an incident: The other night a burglar entered the house and began, dark lantern in hand, to search—

Rastus. For feet? Why, he couldn't help falling over them.

Mr. B. (*annoyed*) No, no! While the burglar was

searching, my sister heard him.

Rastus. He stepped on her feet, and next day she felt it.

Mr. B. Oh, listen! She heard the burglar—what did she do?

Rastus. Stepped on him and he died.

Mr. B. No, she didn't scream nor betray timidity, but ran out—

Rastus. With those feet?

Mr. B. (*angry*) Yes, yes!

Rastus. I don't see how she could run. Maybe somebody carried her feet in a wheelbarrow and she followed them.

Mr. B. No! I tell you I repeat, she ran—

Rastus. And tumbled over them.

Mr. B. No, sir! She ran to the corner and found a policeman—

Rastus. Fast asleep on her feet.

Mr. B. (*very angry*) No!

Rastus. Then he was inside of one of her shoes?

Mr. B. No! she found the policeman, brought him back to the house—

Rastus. And he arrested her feet!

Mr. B. (*angry*) Shut up!

Rastus. Shut up yourself! They weren't your feet, were they?

Mr. B. (*excited*) The policeman came to the house and arrested the burglar. That's what I call bravery!

Rastus. Get out! any girl in this town could do that.

Mr. B. Certainly.

Rastus. But she'd never get the chance.

Mr. B. Why not?

Rastus. She couldn't find a policeman.

Mr. B. It's strange, bravery seems to run in our family!

Rastus. I see you are wearing a lot of medals on your coat. You're not a Sousa or a hero from Manilla, are you?

Mr. B. No, sir! but I am a famous life saver.

Rastus. A life saver?

Mr. B. If you have not heard the story, I'll tell you. I chanced to be down to the sea-shore last summer—

Rastus. Sneaked down, did you, in a freight car?

Mr. B. (*annoyed*) Oh, no! As I said before, I chanced to be there, and while strolling on the beach, I saw a yachting party quite a distance out. Suddenly a

treacherous squall swept in from the sea. The yacht was instantly capsized. I heard a woman scream as the vessel careened and they were cast into the sea. What did I do?

Rastus. You stole the boat.

Mr. B. (*vexed*) Nonsense! I instantly plunged into the water, swam out with the over hand stroke, for which I am famous, and reached one of the ladies and brought her safe to shore. I plunged in again and swam out once more.

Rastus. With the same underhand stroke that you touch with?

Mr. B. (*not noticing him*) I swam thus—(*illustrates the motion and becomes excited and dramatic*) I reached another lady and brought her safe to the beach. Then sir, I plunged in again—(*imitates swimming as before*) swam out to what I supposed was another drowning woman, I reached out and grasped—what? a lady's switch! But I brought it ashore and presented it to the woman who had lost it.

Rastus. And you call yourself a life saver? You're not a hero nor a life saver.

Mr. B. What am I?

Rastus. You're a hair restorer.

(*close in with some popular song*

CURTAIN.

THE END.

HAUNTED BY A SHADOW;

—OR,—

Hunted -:- Down.

A Drama in 4 Acts for 8 male and 2 female characters, by Geo. B. Chase. Costumes modern, characters excellent; and amateurs can easily produce it.

SYNOPSIS.

ACT I. *Scene 1st*—Home of Judge Dean—Mrs. Warren meets her son, Will Warren, (*alias* Frank Hayes) whom she has not seen for years—Nora and her boy lover—Interview between Ralph Monksly and Frank—A plan to get rid of Mrs. Warren—The "shadow"—Nora and Frank—The "ghost." Caesar Orangeblossom—Lost papers—Felix Bolton, the detective, on the trail. *Scene 2nd*—Caesar visits the office of Ralph Monksly—The drugged wine—"Caught in his own trap"—The quarrel—Dr. Radcliff—The bargain closed.

ACT II. *Scene 1st*—Judge Dean and the dectective Bolton—Frank's villainy exposed to the Judge. *Scene 2nd*—The lunatic asylum—An answer to the advertisement—"H-a-n-k Hank F-i-n-n Finn—Hank Finn—Hank and the dog—Mrs. Warren, an inmate of the asylum—The brutal doctor—Rescue of Mrs. Warren by Hank.

ACT III. *Scene 1st*—The proposal—Judge Dean's request of Nora—Nora refuses Frank—His anger and threat—Legal papers—An English fortune—Mrs. Warren's decision—Abduction of Nora—The detective to the rescue. *Scene 2nd*—Nora in the asylum—Escape of Nora—Death of Dr. Radcliff—Papers found.

ACT IV. *Scene 1st*—Barney O'Toole in possession—He discovers a plan of robbery—The detective as a Dutch peddler—Frank and Ralph recognize him, capture and confine him in trunk—Barney releases him—The robbery—Death of Ralph—"I have kept my oath!"—*Scene 2nd*—Frank's villainy exposed—Barney, the rightful heir and son—Shadowed—The criminals to justice—Happy ending.

Two Aunt Emilys; or, Quits.

A Farce in 1 Act, by Martie E. Tibbets, for 8 female characters. This is an excellent little farce, consisting of light comedy, easy acting, racy dialogue and a good moral.

SYNOPSIS.

Quarrel between Dinah and Biddy. Aunt Emily, whose money the girls are trying to get. Mrs. Morton and the telegram. Dismay of Helen and Grace. Dinah lays down the law. Onions and cayenne pepper. Arrival of Belle Morton and her teacher, who is the rich Aunt Emily. Belle's joke on Aunt Emily. The long unheard of sister found. Belle's joke on the girls discovered. The poor Aunt Emily secures a home. Belle gets even and calls it "Quits."

My Awful Wife.

Comedy in 4 acts, by Joseph H. Slater, for 8 male, (can double to 7 male) and 3 female characters. Costumes modern. A clever piece, clean, bright and interesting. Thrilling climaxes and comical situations. Characters all have prominent parts. Not a dull moment in the entire piece. Time of performance, 2 hours and 30 minutes.

SYNOPSIS OF EVENTS.

Home of Jasper J. Muddle—Charles and Ada—**"You bet she's coming, look out for the locomotive"**—Arrival of the "Awful Wife" who proceeds to make things lively—"Ever since I married your respected mamma, I have given up thinking"—A message from Phineas Dabbler, who dabbles in science—Jasper J's soliloquy—Deacon Spyder astounded—"I must inform Mrs. Muddle of the outrageous conduct of her husband"—"Oh, the depravity of human nature"—Sally and the Deacon have words—"Verily, young woman, you are a stumbling block in the path of the righteous"—Mrs. Muddle on the war-path—Phineas Dabbler arrives to spend his vacation with Mr. and Mrs. Muddle, which leads to more complications—Dabbler explains to Jasper J. his Concentrated Essence of The Milk of Human Kindness, which they agree to try on Mrs. Muddle—More family jars—Sammy Dobbs, who applies for a situation, is hired by Jasper J. and is fired, immediately, by Mrs. Muddle, who dislikes his red hair—Sally, by mistake, mixes Dabbler's Infallible Eradicater and Capillary Transmogrifier and uses the wrong one on Sammy's red hair—"After three doses his mother won't know him"—Jasper J. gives his wife an overdose of Dabbler's Milk of Human Kindness—Deacon Spyder overhears an important conversation—"I'll have them arrested for murder"—A large order for ice—Sammy looses all his red hair—The Deacon speaks his mind—The lost antidote—Jasper, who is thought to be insane, meets the doctor—Disastrous results—Mrs. Muddle returns to life to thwart her enemies—Deacon Spyder receives his just deserts—"Crushed again and by my 'Awful Wife'"—"It's a terrible thing to be a henpecked husband."

Price, 25cts

Old Phil's Birthday.

A Serio Comic Drama in 2 acts, by J. P. Wooler, Esq., for 5 male and 2 female characters. Time of perfomance, 1 hour and 45 minutes.

SYNOPSIS OF EVENTS.

Courtyard of Harddress and Co.—Blanche and Marion—Give and take—Phil tells the story of his life—Lionel robs his father's safe—A confession to Frank who furnishes the money to hide his crime—A promise—Phil in a passion—The die is cast, hope is extinguished—Frank and Marion—A secret—"For all our sakes forego this journey to London"—The robbery discovered—The false key to the safe—Frank accused of theft—Phil's anguish—Lionel's regrets—Phil leaves his old home—An interview between Phil and Mr. Harddress—"Frank! I love you"—A confession to Phil by Grantly—Phil's plan—Shielding the guilty one—Lionel confesses and clears Frank's name—Happy ending to "Old Phil's Birthday."

Price, 15cts.

Somebody's Nobody.

Farce in 1 act, by C. A. Maltby, for 3 male and 2 female characters. Dick, to please a friend, takes the part of a high toned Englishman, and pays his respects to the daughter of Mr. Bibbins, who is very much disgusted with him. Dick's endeavors to be "swell" and please, are ludicrous in the extreme. All characters have excellent speaking parts. Easily arranged. Time of performance, 30 minutes.

Price, 15cts.

Patsy O'Hare;

—OR—

The Shamrocks of Ireland.

An Irish drama in 4 acts, by Thos, J. Finnijan, for 9 male and 3 female characters, (can be doubled to 8 male characters.) Time of playing, 1 hour and 15 minutes,

SYNOPSIS OF EVENTS.

ACT I.—Village Inn—Patsy and Barney—"There's hot times coming"—Norah—"What do you mane by calling me ould father names"—The organizer of Ribbonmen—Owen and Donald—"Drink something for old Ireland"—Patsy dashes liquor in Donald's face—Arranging the meeting—Patsy overhears Owen and Donald plotting against Edward—"O! darn that dog, he is taking one toe after another"—Norah helps Patsy.

ACT II.—Home of Edward O'Connor—Edward and his mother discuss the Secret Organization—Kathleen's dislike for Donald Fitzhugh—He may be a spy—Arrival of Patsy, Johnny, Barney and Norah—Johnny sings a song, but with poor success—"Arrah! whativer did we do to be trated like this"—Song by Kathleen, "Wearing of the Green"—Toast, "May the ould divil niver grow fat, that carries two faces under one hat"—Tableau—Curtain.

ACT III.—Owen Kane's cabin on Parson's Ridge—The meeting, all present but Patsy, Edward elected president—Donald Fitzhugh administers oath to Edward, but is interrupted by a stranger, who denounces him as a liar and a spy—"Stand back! would you strike a minister?"—Curtain.

Scene II.—Courtroom—Edward charged with treason—The trial—False testimony—Father Leary takes the stand—Donald and Owen accused of perjury—Confession—Death of Donald Fitzhugh—"The hand of God"—Curtain.

ACT IV.—Home of Edward O'Connor—Discussion of the trial—Patsy, "Five minutes in jail would be enough for me"—Edward and Kathleen betrothed—Father Leary's blessing interrupted by Patsy—"Shure you might as well kill two birds with one stone, Norah and I are going to be married too"—"God bless you all, and may you always remember, as a friend, your own Father Leary"—Happy ending—Curtain.

Price, 15cts.

A Receipt for $10,000 Dollars.

A comedy drama in 4 acts and 4 scenes, by Wm. F. Cattell, for 5 male and 3 female characters. Costumes modern. Time of playing 2 hours and 15 minutes.

SYNOPSIS OF EVENTS.

ACT I.—Office of George Spencer—Wiggins and Polly—Arrival of Spencer—The troublesome kissing bug—"I never loved anything but money"—Bragdon—The $10,000 dollar receipt—"You cannot prove it"—Amy and Spencer—The refusal—Harry Spencer after money—Wiggins shows Polly the knockout blow—Granny Gilbert's discovery—"I haven't heard that name in twenty years"—The conspiracy—Spencer worried—Amy accused of theft—"You placed it in her basket, I took it out."

ACT II.—Wiggins and Polly—The short end of a dark horse—The future Mrs. Wiggins—Ikey, the Jew, and Granny Gilbert—"What did you do with James Spencer's child?"—Spencer threatens to disgrace Amy—The plot—Spencer meets Ikey Cohen, who makes some startling disclosures and joins the plotters—Harry makes a proposal to Amy—"You love this beggar, John Bragdon?"—Amy abducted—"Let that woman go, she is your brother's child"—"Oh! such a business, such a business!"

ACT III.—Wiggins and Polly, who are hunting for Amy, overhear a little of the plot—Ikey refuses to steal another woman—"Oh! such a business, such a business!"—Arrival of Bragdon—The interview—"Granny Gilbert was the nurse of my brother's child"—Spencer accuses Granny of abducting Amy, but is not believed by Bragdon—Wiggins and Polly trying to find the way out—Spencer tries a little bribing—"You will never leave this room alive"—Wiggins to the rescue—"The game is not yet won, George Spencer."

ACT IV.—Kitchen of the old house on the Meadow—Harry engages an old woman to take charge of Amy—Wiggins and Polly gain an entrance, but leave suddenly—Granny identifies Amy—"You are the child of George Spencer's brother—The introduction—"We are three of a kind"—Harry finds an old will, which he gives to his father, but which Ikey manages to get hold of—"Give that woman her rights"—Ikey interferes—"Help! help! my God, he will kill me"—Granny—Spencer shoots Harry by mistake—"Thank heaven! you have come at last"—"I have played the game and lost"—Death of George Spencer—"Your receipt is worth $10,000 dollars"—The end.

Price 25cts.

THE COMMERCIAL DRUMMER.

A Drama in 3 Acts, by Thorn Melross, for 6 male and 2 female characters. This piece is immense. It is printed from the author's original manuscript, and has been produced with great success by the American Theatre Co.

SYNOPSIS.

ACT I. Home of the late Richard Marlow. Interview between Frank Ross and Lawyer Dudley. The pious deacon and Verda Mader. Reading the will. Joe's dog collar. Richard Marlow, the false heir. The child of the Dark Continent in trouble. Three villains. "Ten thousand to silence my tongue!" Zadie, the deserted wife of John Dudley. An attempted murder. Joe's little "barker" interferes. Deacon and Joe. Frank and Verda; his resolve to become a "Commercial Drummer." Zadie gives Verda a home. Mr. Dudley's proposal to Verda, and the misunderstanding. Murder of Deacon Foote, and Frank accused. The struggle, "life or death!"

ACT II. Zadie, Verda, and the tramp. "Painted benches." "My kingdom for some soup!" Booth and Zadie. Attempted murder of Zadie: Ashtor, the tramp interferes, and makes Dudley hand over a "William." Booth and the Indian. Too much beer. The stolen will. Joe in the barrel. Target shooting. Verda's refusal to marry Dudley. Abduction of Verda, and Joe knocked down.

ACT III. Ashtor and Booth. Corn plasters; "There's millions in them!" Olie, the Swede. Zadie, the Census taker. Two "drummers!" Rescue of Verda by Zadie. Frank discovered by Richard, as Booth. "He must die!" A job for Olie. "In the soup!" Hot and cold boxes. Olie and Booth to the rescue of Zadie. Explanations. A new version of McGinty. A love scene. Capture of Verda. Supposed death of Booth. Fright and death of Dudley. Capture of Richard. Frank and Verda secure the fortune at last. Zadie avenged and the "Commercial Drummer" sells corn plasters no more.

THE Intelligence Office.

An original Ethiopian Sketch in 1 Scene for 3 male characters—as produced at Tony Pastor's Opera House. This sketch is extremely ludicrous costumes modern—time in representation 15 minutes.

A NEW PLAY BY LIZZIE MAY ELWYN, AUTHOR OF DOT, THE MINER'S DAUGHTER, ENTITLED

Rachel, the Fire Waif.

A Drama in 4 acts, for 7 male and 4 female characters. Time of performance, 2 hours.

SYNOPSIS OF EVENTS.

ACT I.—Nathan Ellsworth's home—Ray asleep—Alarm of fire—Ray and Drusilla—"I am a Fire Waif"—The two papers—Report of Eugene Burleigh's death"—Aunt Sophy and Barney get into a row—Tabitha packs her valise—Elmer and Ray—Nathan and Barney arrive with Harvey Jackson, who has assumed the name of Eugene Burleigh, who has been rescued from the fire—Drusilla recognizes him—The threat of murder—Barney sings "Swate Little Buther Cup."

ACT II.—Storm—Sophy gives Nathan a piece of her mind—Parson Green receives a rough reception—Thunder and lightning—Jackson recognizes Parson Green, alias Brock—The threat—Brock relates a little story—The plot to murder Elmer Ellsworth and Eugene Burleigh—Barney and Tabitha—Storm continues—Elmer starts for the Lighthouse—Jackson and Ray—The wrecked ship—Ray implores Jackson to go to Elmer's rescue, which he refuses—"Coward, I will save him"—Elmer, Ray and Eugene Burleigh—Eugene disguised as Capt. Brown—Drusilla recognizes his voice—Tabitha's oath.

ACT III.—The forged check—Drusilla again becomes a wanderer—Eugene discovers her note to Ray—Abduction of Eugene Burleigh—Barney is an eye witness—Jackson accuses Elmer of forging the check and helps him to escape—A lost letter—Tabitha, Barney and the flour barrel—Jackson tells Ray about the check—"I never will believe him guilty"—A three month's promise—Nathan and Sophy—"It's my opinion it's a put up job"—Barney's pledge.

ACT IV.—Ray as the wife of Jackson—The abuse—Jackson and Brock—"I'll be even with you"—"Your doom is sealed"—Nathan, Sophy and Elmer in search of Ray—The lost letter turns up, which unravels the mystery of Drusilla—Eugene Burleigh gives a history of the past, which clears Drusilla of the crime of murder and reveals to Ray that Drusilla is her sister. The explosion, in which Jackson is killed—The house enveloped in flames—Firemen rescue the party.

—— **PRICE 25 CENTS.** ——

—THE—
MECHANIC'S REPRIEVE.

A Drama in 3 acts, by John M. Murphy, for 8 male and 3 female characters. Time of playing 1 hour and 50 minutes.

—PRICE 15 CENTS PER COPY.—

SYNOPSIS OF EVENTS.

ACT I.—Colonel Harrington informs his daughter Mary, of Lester Wilson's intended visit—Dan Trogan and the horses—John Rogers, the mechanic—His proposal accepted by Mary—"If a body kiss a body"—Annie and Mary—E. Z. Walker, as a tramp, appears—Annie interested in the tramp—"Me heart is broke and me back is in the same yard," says Dan—Colonel gives his consent for Wilson to address Mary—Mary and Wilson, the proposal rejected—"He's nothing but a mechanic"—A plot to ruin John Rogers—The stolen money and murder of Colonel Harrington—John accused of murder, by Wilson—Mary's faith in her lover—Arrest of Rogers.

ACT II.—The tramp returns, meets Annie and Dan—Annie tells Walker of the murder and the conviction of Rogers—"He hangs to-day"—"I can and will save him"—Mary intercedes with the Governor for a reprieve—The reprieve granted—"A ride for a life"—Walker tells the Governor that he murdered Col. Harrington, in order to save Rogers—Arrest of Walker, when Louise, Wilson's wife arrives, and swears she saw Lester Wilson murder the Colonel—Wilson and Dan, the bribe rejected—Rogers in prison—Wilson visits Rogers—The insult—Arrival of Mary with the reprieve—"Saved, John saved."

ACT III.—A lapse of one year—Home of John and Mary Rogers—Walker and Annie as lovers—News of Lester Wilson's escape from prison—Mary's forbodings—Lester Wilson's attempt to kill John Rogers, but is foiled by Louise—Dan arrests Lester—"Lester Wilson, you have wronged me deeply, but I forgive you"—"Come friends, let us go in, night's shadows are closing around us. Its gloomy shades are too suggestive of the past, and around the cheery fireplace I can see the faces of the friends, whose love for me was my salvation, in the dark days before I was Reprieved.

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Price, 15cts

LATEST COMEDY DRAMA,

Uncle Jed's Fidelity;

—OR—

The Returned Cowboy.

A Comedy Drama, by Bert C. Rawley, for 7 male and 3 female characters. Costumes modern. Time of playing, 2 hours.

—*SYNOPSIS OF EVENTS.*—

Mr. Western, a strong willed man, objects to his daughter marrying a poor but honest man, and resolves she shall marry his friend, Donald Reeves, a rich man—Isabel refuses—Uncle Jed arrives from the country and intercedes for Isabel, but Mr. Western refuses to believe Donald Reeve a villain—Donald Reeve's forsaken wife arrives and forbids Donald's attention to Isabel—Peregrine Splatter overhears Donald threaten his wife, and becomes his partner for the purpose of bringing him to justice—Col. Western drives Isabel from his house—She returns with Uncle Jed to his country home—Donald Reeves murders his wife and throws the guilt on Isabel's lover, Robert Shelden—His arrest and imprisonment—Robert escapes and at last brings proof that Donald Reeves is the murderer—Donald arrested. Uncle Jed. Jasper, the negro, Polly and Peregrine Splatter make up the comedy parts—This is a play in which all the characters are evenly balanced. Amateurs will find it a good one. Price 15 cts.

The Obstinate Family.

A farce in 1 act, for 3 male and 3 female characters. Scene, plain room. Everyday costumes. Time, 40 minutes. A lover's quarrel between two servants, grows by a very natural process, into what threatens to be a domestic cyclone of vast proportions. The piece is a mere trifle but a very entertaining one. Price, 15 cents.

ETHIOPIAN